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Title Page

"Abraham Lincoln"

A Photoplay in 12 reels.

By Frances Marion

Directed by Philip Rosen

Authors of Photoplay (united States)

(2.) Mockett-Lincoln Film Co.

USA

The Story of the Picture.

When you are told that more than seventeen thousand books and documents were examined by the researchers in amassing data from which to build the story of "THE DRAMATIC LIFE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN" you begin to understand the immensity of the subject and will appreciate how utterly impossible it is to reduce it to a brief sketch.

The life story of this great and wonderful man if told in detail, giving full value to every event, quoting every speech, saying and document, would require a trainload of such booklets as this and five hundred reels of film. It will, therefore, be plain how full of meat must be the twelve reels into which this picture has been made.

On the twelfth of February, 1809, in the midst of a terrific blizzard, Abraham Lincoln was born in a log cabin on Rock Creek Farm, Kentucky, near the present town of Hodgenville. His parents were Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln.

At the time of Abraham's birth, Thomas Lincoln was away in Elizabethtown buying supplies and, being snowbound by the blizzard, he did not arrive home until a day after the event, when he found the good pioneer neighbors looking after Mrs. Lincoln, the new-born babe and their little daughter Sarah.

When Nancy Hanks went down into the valley of the shadow to bring forth the babe that was to become immortal she was alone save for her little six-year-old daughter, Sarah, and the little cabin was cold, dark and without food. It if had not been for Isom Enlow, a neighbor seeking shelter at the Lincoln cabin from the storm, Thomas Lincoln might have come home to find a tragedy instead of a house of peace and joy.

While waiting for the storm to subside, Enlow had sustained the young mother, little Sarah and the baby by feeding them broth made of wild turkey grease and hot water, the grease being used by the riflemen of those days to lubricate their firearms.

After a happy childhood in his humble Kentucky home, Abraham Lincoln, at the age of seven, removed with his parents to the new free state of Indiana, settling on Pigeon

Creek in the southern part of the state near the present town of Gentryville. Here Nancy Hanks Lincoln soon after died and a year later Thomas Lincoln, unwilling to leave his children without the guiding hand of a mother, married his old childhood friend, Sarah Bush Johnson, of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, a noble Christian woman of great virtue and strength of character. She was a fine influence in the life of Abraham Lincoln, a fact which many a time he gratefully attested.

During his years in Indiana young Abraham grew strong and athletic and long before he was twenty he made a full hand at all kinds of heavy work; was the champion of his neighborhood at all sports of the times and had read every book known to be within a radius of fifty miles or more.

Sarah Lincoln died a few years after her mother and in 1828 Thomas Lincoln again listened to the call of the pioneer spirit and trekked with his family to Illinois, where they arrived in August and that fall built a cabin in what is now Coles County. Abraham broke ground for a crop the next spring and in the autumn of that year, 1829, Thomas Lincoln gave the tall boy "his time" and Abraham, with an axe and his few clothes tied into a bundle, set out to conquer the world "on his own". He struck out west along an old Indian trail toward Macon County and spent the winter splitting rails in the bottoms of the Sangamon River. Then he conceived the idea of building a flatboat and taking a cargo of farm products to New Orleans. He found a backer, built the boat and was then and there elected to his first office -- captain of a flat boat.

On the way down the Sangamon to the Illinois the boat was hung up on the Rutledge & Cameron milldam at the little town of New Salem and it was here that Lincoln got his first glimpse of Anne Rutledge, belle of the village and countryside, daughter of John Rutledge, of the famous Rutledge family of South Carolina.

At New Orleans Captain Lincoln sold his cargo and boat to advantage and it was here that he first came into contact with African slavery at the old slave market. His cousin, John Hanks, who accompanied him, said that Lincoln was deeply moved by the horrors of the market and declared: "If I ever get a chance to hit that thing I'll hit it hard."

Lincoln and Hanks worked their passage back to St. Louis by firing a steamboat and walked thence to New Salem, where Lincoln got a job as millhand at the Cameron and Rutledge mill and later became a clerk in the store of M.T. Offut. Here, because of his studious habits, he became the butt of the Clary Grove gang, a crowd of amiable young rowdies led by the athletic champion, Jack Armstrong. Their fun with Lincoln culminated in a battle royal in which the tall, gangling young clerk gave Armstrong the trimming of his life and stood off the whole gang.

Meantime young Lincoln had become a boarder at the Rutledge Tavern and there met the lovely Anne who for some months had been engaged to John McNeil, the catch of the community, John being a prosperous merchant-trader and estimated to be worth ten thousand dollars -- a fortune in those days.

One day McNeil confided to Anne that his name was not really McNeil but McNamer, that his parents and family lived in New York and that he intended returning there to bring them back to New Salem. He explained his change of name as a device necessary to protect him from importunities of his poor relations while building his fortune and, now that he had succeeded, he need conceal his identity no longer.

John went away and Anne never heard from him again. His confession and silence caused grave doubts in the minds of Anne and her friends and in her distress it was but natural that the gentle soul should turn to the strong, noble and deeply sympathetic Lincoln.

Their romance, as unfolded by Frances Marion in her scenario, is the sweetest love idyll in American history.

During these days Lincoln had been elected to a captaincy of volunteers in the Black Hawk War, where he served with efficiency, there being little or no fighting, but a lot of marching and hard work. Upon his return to New Salem he found his partner in the store had drunk up all the stock and Lincoln was left with a debt of \$1,100 to pay. "That debt was the greatest obstacle in my life," he said. "I had no way of speculating

and could not earn money except by labor, and to earn by labor \$1,100 besides my living, seemed the work of a lifetime. I went to my creditors and told them that if they would let me alone I would pay them all I could earn above a bare living, as fast as I could earn it." How he did it is an index to his character.

In six weeks he mastered surveying sufficiently to accept a job offered him by the surveyor of Sangamon County and that same year and for four years thereafter he was elected a representative in the state legislature at \$4.00 per day, more money than he had ever earned in his life.

Here he met the great men of the state, including his future great rival in love and politics, Stephen A. Douglas, and here he studied law and read avidly of the books in the state library. Here also he developed his natural gift for public speaking and became respected in debate and in the councils of the state.

In 1836 Lincoln removed to Springfield, and so well had he kept faith with his creditors and so frugally had he lived that he did not have \$17.00 to buy bedding for his room.

See him rise from law student to circuit rider; to congressman, 1847-49; to candidate for the United States Senate in 1855, when he sacrificed himself by throwing his support to Lyman Trumbull to prevent the election of an undesirable candidate.

The repeal of the Missouri Compromise in 1854 had been to him as a call to arms to fight against the extension of slavery, and four years later, in 1858, he challenged Senator Douglas to a joint debate on the question of the day, and from August to October, these two gladiators staged the most stupendous and spectacular political battle ever fought in any country. Lincoln was defeated for the Senate, but was a victor in the popular mind, and his contest had so caught the imagination of the plain people that he was marked as the republican candidate for President in 1860.

In the meantime there had been threats of secession and war, and when Lincoln was elected President over Stephen A. Douglas in 1860, the South hesitated no longer, but

began preparations for the struggle which the leaders on both sides had seen coming for years.

Then came Lincoln's sad departure from his old home; his journey to Washington for his first inauguration; the gathering of the war clouds; the threats against his life; President at last!

The untried man in the White House.

The cabal in his cabinet.

Fort Sumter!

Civil War!

American citizens at each other's throats! The divided households -- fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, sweethearts, lovers, friends, at war -- scattered to the four winds!

The tremendous tragedy of the awful struggle! The clash of Blue and Gray!

The Stars and Stripes in deadly battle with the Stars and Bars!

The marvels of courage and self-sacrifice on both sides!

The wonder of the American women!

The sadness, the terror, the gallantry, the horror -- the hell of it all!

Bull Run, Ball's Bluff, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville!

Vicksburg, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Cold Harbor!

Petersburg, Five Forks, Appomattox!

At Washington, enemies outside; enemies inside; profiteers, treason, waste, demagogues, liars, thieves and propagandists!

The lonely man in the White House, with burdens too heavy to bear, and in the midst of it all his best-beloved son is taken from him.

The election in the midst of war, demonstrating that a republic can conduct an orderly election in time of civil strife!

Then Appomattox!

The surrender!

The lonely man in the White House smiles at last and plans to rebuild our House of States!

The band plays Dixie! The gallant warriors in gray follow their immortal captain to their broken homes.

The glorious cohorts in blue parade before their victorious chief!

The plotters!

THE ASSASSIN!

The smile fades; the noble head droops, the great spirit goes to give an accounting of his stewardship to the Ruler of Destinies!

But hark! A note of triumph rings out along the sound lanes of the ether to every American home, to every land and people! Even the acclaim of a united Nation raising to the imperishable memory of Abraham Lincoln a matchless tribute in eternal stone!

Here ends the task of the teller of tales in motion pictures. The last reel is unwound. Let us fade out.

MAY -2 1924

REQUEST FOR RETURN OF COPYRIGHT DEPOSITS

Dated at

Wash D.C.
May 2, 1924

Register of Copyrights,
Library of Congress,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The undersigned claimant of copyright in the work herein named,
deposited in the Copyright Office and duly registered for copyright pro-
tection, requests the return to him under the provisions of sections 59 and
60 of the Act of March 4, 1909, of one or both of the deposited copies of the

2 Prints entitled Abraham Lincoln
12 rules

deposited in the Copyright Office on May 2/24 and registered
under Class, XXc., No. ©CIL 20136

If this request can be granted you are asked and authorized to send
the said copy or copies to me at the following address:

or

to

at

Signed

Associated Film Nat.
(Claimant of Copyright)

(Sept., 1922—500)

W.S. Lawrence

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